

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 active in the present application. Claims 3, 4, 7-8, 11-12, 16 and 18 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. No new matter is added. An action on the merits and allowance of claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

--3. (Amended) A protein which comprises the amino acid sequence of claim 1 [or 2], in which one or more amino acid residues are substituted, deleted, inserted or added, and has a phospholipase A₂ activity.

4. (Amended) A DNA which encodes the protein as claimed in [any one of claims 1, 2 and 3] claim 1.

7. (Amended) A DNA which hybridizes to the DNA as claimed in claim 5 [or 6] under the stringent condition and encodes the protein having a phospholipase A₂ activity.

8. (Amended) An expression vector which has the DNA as claimed in [any one of claims 4 to 7] claim 4.

11. (Amended) A method for producing a protein which comprises [a step of the culture of the transformant as claimed in claim 9 or 10] inserting the expression vector which has the DNA which encodes the protein which comprises an amino acid sequence from first Asn to 123rd Cys of that shown in SEQ ID No.: 30 and a step of recovering the protein as claimed in [any one of claims 1, 2 and 3] claim 1 from the culture.

12. (Amended) An antibody which specifically recognizes the protein as claimed in [any one of claims 1, 2 and 3] claim 1.

16. (Amended) A screening method of a compound that specifically inhibits a secretory type phospholipase A₂ activity with the protein as claimed in [any one of claims 1, 2 and 3] claim 1.

18. (Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 17 wherein the IIE type phospholipase A₂ is the protein [as claimed in any one of claims 1, 2, and 3] which comprises an amino acid sequence from first Asn to 123rd Cys of that shown in SEQ ID No.: 30.--